10th February 1958]

Prohibition

* 25 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any communication from the Centre during the year 1957, seeking their opinion in regard to the setting up of a Central Committee to review the working of Prohibition in this State ; and

(*b*) if so, whether any reply has been sent?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Sri N. K. PALANISAMI : மதுவிலக்கை அமுல் செய்வதில் புதிய முறைகளைப்பற்றி மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு இந்த சர்க்கார் பதில் அனுப்பியிருக்கிறார்களா ?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இந்த சர்க்கார் மத்திய சர்க்காரின் யோசனைகளுக்கு ஒன்றும் அனுப்பவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. அப்படி ஒன்றும் அனுப்பப்படவும் இல்லை.

Mr. SPEAKER : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. SPEAKER *RE* PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

Mr. SPEAKER : Under rule 14 (1) of the Madras Assembly Rules, I nominate the following hon. Members to be the panel of Chairmen for the current session :— 9-40 a.m.

1. Sri T. T. Daniel.
2. Sri M. D. Ramasami.
3. Dr. Srimathi Sathiyavanimuthu.
4. Sri K. Sattanatha Karayalar.

I have also to announce to the House that the amendments to the Motion of Thanks to the Governor's Address will be received not later than 1 p.m. to-day.

I have also to make a statement with regard to the remarks of the hon. Member, Sri Asaithambi about English. I would like to remind this House that this House has the privilege and pride of having transacted its business in Tamil from the very first day. We are now issuing all leaflets in English and Tamil. We are also issuing list of questions both in English and in Tamil. The main question is answered in English but the supplementary questions are asked and answered mostly in Tamil. I have really no objection to the main question being answered in Tamil but the progress in this direction has to be slow in view of the limited knowledge of the Chair in Tamil. I hope hon. Members will bear

with me and perhaps in the course of a few months, I shall be able to satisfy them. I am saying this because I am going to give the next two rulings in English (laughter).

IV.—NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE*: POLICE ACTIVITIES ON 3RD AND 6TH JANUARY 1958.

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices of adjournment motion from three hon. Members, Sri Anbazhagan, Sri Annamalai and Sri M. P. Subramaniam. They all want to adjourn the business of the House to discuss a matter of public importance, viz., police activities on 3rd and 6th January 1958 against black flag demonstration held by the Dravida Munnetra Khazhagam in the City and in the mofussil and against the alleged ill-treatment given to those put in prison.

I rule these Motions out of order for the following reasons :—

Firstly, the matter must be urgent. I am afraid this is more than a month old and there may be difference of opinion as to the urgency of the matter. Secondly, the matter raised involves no more than ordinary administration of law. I am not satisfied that it is not covered by the ordinary process of law. Lastly, parliamentary opportunity will occur shortly during the discussion on the Governor's Address to enable hon. Members to speak about those matters. They can, if they like, give amendments to the Motion of Thanks that is proposed to the Governor's Address with reference to such matters. For these three reasons, I do not give permission to move the Adjournment Motions and under rule 49 of the Assembly Rules, I rule them out of order.

V.—PRIVILEGE MOTION *RE* PAMPHLET PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR AND MINISTER IN CHARGE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will remember that at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly on the 16th November 1957, the last day of the sittings of the Assembly in November 1957, Sri M. Kalyanasundaram, M.L.A., gave notice of a Privilege Motion that the action of the Director of Information and Publicity and the Minister-in-charge of Publicity and Information in publishing the pamphlet under the title "முதுகளத்தூரில் நடந்தது என்ன" in Tamil constituted a breach of privilege of the House as that pamphlet contained a lot of distortions and wilful misrepresentations calculated to scandalise the opposition parties. I promised to look into the allegations and give my decision at this meeting.

2. The pamphlet consists of three parts, viz., (1) a Preface by the Director of Information and Publicity, (2) the Statement made by the Hon. Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, Minister for Home, on the Ramanathapuram district disturbances translated into Tamil from English, and (3) the speech of the Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam, Leader of the House replying to the debate on the No-confidence motion. A Tamil translation of the statement by the Minister for Home was also circulated to the Members already.